

# Community Support Reform

ME303.3

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The goal of this initiative is to develop and implement a comprehensive oversight, quality and monitoring of all community support and employment services throughout Maine that are funded under Section 18, 20, 21, 29 MaineCare Waivers.

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Community Support and Employment Service Programs have gone through validation based on the Home and Community Based Setting Federal Rule and Maine's State Transition to Compliance Plan.

The 155 currently enrolled Community Support Settings are unlicensed, and the Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) does not currently have a quality review process developed or in place to meet CMS requirements for ongoing monitoring of these settings.

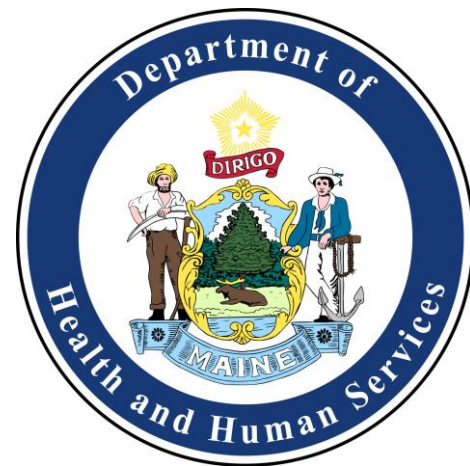
Employment Providers who support waiver members in employment, also require ongoing monitoring of their services, including monitoring of their outcomes, quality, and ongoing compliance with HCBS Federal and State Rules. There is currently no existing framework for this process.

This Community and Employment Support Initiative will build upon prior work that the Department completed when validating all the Non-Residential Settings as a requirement to

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This project is funded in part through Section 9817 of the federal American Rescue Plan Act. Last Updated 10/13/2023

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## Project Details

Started:

**September 1, 2022**

Projected Completion:

**March 31, 2025**

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## Links

[Disability Services Reform Community Membership Work Group](#)

[Initiatives](#)

[Policy & Planning](#)

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show the state's compliance with the HCBS rule. This Project will include the following:

- Complete a review of the findings from all Non-Residential HCBS oversight agencies and determine what common areas of deficiency were identified.
  - Research and suggest Program Standards for Non-Residential Services that can be implemented through rule making.
  - Develop, with input from OADS, OMS and DLC, as well as stakeholders an overall systemic oversight framework that includes licensing, program standards, onsite reviews, and a process to provide ongoing technical support.
  - Coordinate the implementation of the Non-Residential Standards and Framework Plan before July 1, 2024.
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## Outcomes to Date

- Reviewed Community Membership Reform group recommendations
  - Reviewed common outcomes from HCBS Settings findings and received recommendations for consultants to help with this work from Dr. Lisa Mills.
  - Met with potential consultants and contractors who have significant experience in creating Frameworks for Non-Residential systems under waivers.
  - Developed a regular internal work group to oversee this project.
  - Coordinating with overall Quality Assurance project
  - Met with potential sole source contractor in August
  - Developed a draft Sole Source Contract that will be submitted to DSCM by 2-28-2023.
  - Alvarez and Marsal (A & M) contract encumbered for September 1 start to develop the quality framework for all day and employment services.
  - Met with A & M for initial discussions on 10-11-2023 and plan for larger kickoff in early November
  - Internal development and training of staff to assist with guidance on the implementation of the project.
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## Next Steps:

- Meet with and begin planning for implementation of licensing of all day and employment providers (provider level) based on new statute-ongoing
  - Begin implementation of the Work Plan with A & M – October/November 2023
  - Create and launch the Internal/External Stakeholder group to the Project- November 2023
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